

Risk Assessment 5: Bouldering

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Document History:

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Scope:

This risk assessment covers all staff working for Foundry Mountaineering Club CIC Ltd, Foundry Catering Services Ltd and Foundry Climbing Coaching Ltd.

Documentation Review

Yearly in April

Who needs to view this document?

Staff

Instructors

Coaches

Hazard	The cause of the hazard	Who is at risk	Existing Precautions	Risk Level and impact
Landing awkwardly	Uncontrolled fall	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<p>Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members and guests should follow the Conditions of Use. ● Brief new and novice climber on how to descend safely. ● Crash mats in use to help prevent injury. Other members should be at a distance from climbers when not climbing. <p>Instruction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Keep tight control of climbers. Consider hight of problem set for the novice climber. Clear briefing given to climber prior to starting climbing. Height markers on Bleaustone wall can be used a guide instructor with height climber ascends too. <p>Offsite</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Instructors and coaches to select appropriate problems for the group’s ability. ● Instructors and coaches to check placement of pads prior climber attempting the problem to ensure that the pads cover the fall zone. 	Low Risk High Impact
	Landing heavily when traversing	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<p>Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rubber crumb matting designed to absorb impact. Damaged rubber crumb matting to be replaced. ● Hall monitoring to ensure climbers are not traversing too high. ● Setting to ensure the moves are at a low height and climber not able to heel hook and fall backwards onto head/ back. (This will be viewed by setters in the Setting SOP) <p>Instruction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Appropriate route choice and supervision. ● Correct brief to climber and observation of climbers. 	Low Risk High Impact

			<p>Offsite</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructors and coaches to select appropriate problems for the group's ability. Instructors and coaches to check placement of pads prior climber attempting the problem to ensure that the pads cover the fall zone. 	
	Spinning/breaking hold	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club asks all members to report any problems with walls to reception, as stated in Conditions of Use. Loose hold recorded on report spreadsheet on the staff@ Google Drive account. Close route if required until staff can tighten hold safely. Routes tested by setters to ensure holds are tight. (This will be viewed by setters in the Setting SOP) Staff tighten holds where required. <p>Offsite</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate selection of problem. Where appropriate spot the climber. Bouldering pads placed in fall zone 	Low Risk High Impact
	Climbing too high/topping out on the wall or boulder.	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climbers are reminded in the Conditions of Use to only climb within their capability. Hall monitoring. The club forbids topping out on any bouldering wall in the centre, this is stated in the Conditions of Use under "<i>Part 2: Bouldering and Traversing</i>". <p>Offsite</p> <p>Offsite</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate selection of problem. Where appropriate spot the climber. Bouldering pads placed in fall zone. Briefing climber about target height. Where topping out is done discussing and helping climber with decent. Consider moving pads if required. 	Low Risk High Impact

	Falling between matting	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use protective strips across mats. ● Set up correctly and monitor. <p>Offsite</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Instructors and coaches to select appropriate problems for the group's ability. ● Instructors and coaches to check placement of pads prior climber attempting the problem to ensure that the pads cover the fall zone. 	Low Risk High Impact
	Sliding between mat and wall	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure mat is up against the wall. ● Remove holds before installing matting. Monitor throughout use. 	Low Risk High Impact
Person landing on another person	Climber falling onto another person	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<p>Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members guided in the Conditions of Use to stand off bouldering mats when not climbing/spotting. ● Guests should be directed to safe areas when not climbing as per the "Novice & Under 18's Signing in form. ● Prior to starting to climb, inexperienced climbers briefed to check boulder path for other climbers to prevent collision. ● Hall monitoring <p>Instruction and off site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Briefing by staff and instructors to new climbers and spectators to ensure that the group and spectators are in a safe zone. 	Low Risk High Impact
Person landing on objects	Climber falling and landing on objects	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<p>Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members to keep climbing area clear as per Conditions of Use. ● Hall monitoring. <p>Instruction and off site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Instructors to check area before climbing and remove hazards. ● Supervision of group. ● Outdoors pads to be placed to cover boulders. 	Low Risk High Impact
Structural stability leading to collapse	Structural integrity	Staff Customers	Club	Low Risk High Impact

		Instructors Coaches Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual inspection by setters for obvious signs of malfunction/fault (This will be viewed by setters in the Setting SOP) 	
Landing off matting	Climbing above area not protected by matting	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<p>Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The left-hand side of the Bleaustone bouldering wall is designed to prevent climbers falling off the matting. The upstairs bouldering has two ends of none climbing surface to prevent climbers landing off the matting. Setting to ensure problems cannot be climbed in an unsafe manner . (This will be viewed by setters in the Setting SOPs) <p>Instruction and off site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correct supervision and briefing to climbers. 	Low Risk High Impact
Special considerations for bouldering comp nights				
Landing off mating	Falling off matting that we have placed under roped climbing walls	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check members are climbing correctly and safely via hall monitoring. Routes set so climbers can't climb near the edge of mat. Remove holds close to arete if required. (This will be viewed by setters in the Setting SOP). 	Low Risk High Impact
Landing awkwardly	Climbing too high above mating	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tape at a safe height plus signs to say max height if required. Hall monitoring. 	Low Risk High Impact
	Falling awkwardly on a "lights out" comp	Staff Customers Instructors Coaches Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting to consider fall potential considering poor lighting. See setting SOP. Staff remain vigilant throughout the night. 	

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